

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, FOR A SOCIETY OF FARMERS, AT QUINCY HALL, SOUTH MARKET STREET: WM. BUCKMINSTER, OF FRAMINGHAM, EDITOR.

VOL. 3.

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN.

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AGRICULTURE.

Will Birds eat Caterpillars?

The editor of the Boston Courier, on copying our articles relating to a red robin that we noticed on a caterpillar's nest, picking the worms out of it as we supposed, makes the following remarks:

"There are few papers, that we read more pleasure and profit, than the Massachusetts Ploughman. The remarks of its editor usually embody the result of practical and more or less careful research; and they are always commendable in a style that is bold, simple, and attractive. Even his sentences of only two or three lines, often disclose a thought, which some writers would not be able to express in half a column, or are finished to a point, which the most skilful epigrammatist might be unable to cover. We are, however, of the opinion, founded on actual observation, we are in the habit of submitting without much of doubtful apprehension.

But the article quoted above involves a doctrine, or a proposition, by implication, at least, which, we are sorry to say, awards to our feathered fellow-workmen, in the most decided manner, the rank of crows, and they are always commendable in a style that is bold, simple, and attractive. Even his sentences of only two or three lines, often disclose a thought, which some writers would not be able to express in half a column, or are finished to a point, which the most skilful epigrammatist might be unable to cover. We are, however, of the opinion, founded on actual observation, we are in the habit of submitting without much of doubtful apprehension.

The robin is an exceedingly pleasant companion. His song is the most cheerful of any, always exceeding that of the sparrow, the lark, and the crow; and he gives us a concert every day through the year. But his concerts are not given gratis. He contrives to get his pay for the whole season in cherry-time. He is the most bold and arrant swindler that walks on two legs. He is a hypocritical, unkind, unprincipled, undesignating scoundrel, who, during the summer months, steals your cherries, and then steals your cherries, or makes a dive at your strawberries. He is a dastard rascal, too, for he seldom takes a whole cherry. He only pecks off the side next the sun, as soon as it begins to turn red, leaving the remainder to perish, until he is eaten by man or bird.

We have no cater-worms within our borders. The Ploughman, however, round that caterpillars, and worms, &c., will call him up to Framingham, for the remainder of the year. Our friend of the Ploughman shall have full liberty to enter our grounds and take them. We had much rather they should upon his cherries than ours; but we can hardly hope that his effort to feed them gratis will tempt them to leave his presents settled on them. There are strawberries, cherries, peaches, and the sheepish which they can steal."

The high compliments which the editor of the Courier bestows on the Ploughman it has been our ambition to deserve, but we could never have expected such an accusation from a writer who is so nice in all the observances of style. We pay more regard to manner than to manner, though aware of the importance of an intelligible style of the subject we write about. And it is proper here to say, that for twenty years past the style of the editor of the Courier has been our leading star. We have been well acquainted with his writings ever since he commenced the publication of a paper, and if we have a good style he is entitled to much of the credit of it.

In regard to birds and worms, the subject that occasioned his notice, we will say, on reperusal, that it was the red robin, not the common robin of our orchards, that we noticed pillaging a caterpillar's nest. We cannot say we have ever seen the common robin eating caterpillars. It is fond of the long-winged, the white muck-worm, and the smaller grubs, but we have never thought it a very formidable enemy of the caterpillar.

Still we have no doubt that the common robin does us more good than evil. What if he loves the cherry "more than meat," and stolen fruit better than any other, "do not our children even the same?" We have cherries enough and to spare, why should the young robin perish with hunger? Plant a few more trees if you lack, and then will be good enough to let you know when your cherries are ripe.

The sensitive editor of the Courier seems rather too hard upon the robin when he takes not the least notice of the proper cherry bird, that "takes and carries away" ten times as many cherries from most of our gardens as the common robin does. But he has no belief that robin or other birds ever feed on caterpillars or canker worms. We have been well acquainted with his writings ever since he commenced the publication of a paper, and if we have a good style he is entitled to much of the credit of it.

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SOUTH DOWN SHEEP.

In our last number we made a few remarks on this breed of sheep. We are not prepared to say that this is the only kind that should be kept here, or that it will be a superior kind; but we have heard it highly spoken of, and from what we have seen of the breed we should incline to give it a trial were we located where we had cheap pastures and abundance of food.



This cut gives a very fair view of the form of the South Down breed. Its fleeces are larger and finer than those of our native sheep while its fleeces are said to be superior to them.

Some farmers of Illinois are introducing large flocks on to their prairie lands; but we have strong doubts whether those extensive plains are well suited to sheep. We should much prefer the hilly lands of New England.

We see in the Albany Cultivator of this month an account of a flock of sheep in Ulster County, New York, that was much reduced by eating rank red clover; nineteen out of one hundred ewes died in the course of ten days from the ninth of June. The clover was very rank and but little else was found in the pasture for the sheep to live on. The owner found, on turning his sheep out, that the head land beside the fences that had not been ploughed, was great havoc in our fields. But we should be on our guard against red and clover, and all kinds of sleeping, though we have no doubt they have both proved useful when applied with caution.

The case of garden seeds is different. We can see to this business better, as we operate on a smaller scale than in field planting, and can prepare our seeds with more attention. Some of these seeds too are hairy that they are a long time in vegetating, and as hand weeding is necessary, it is more important to hasten their growth and give them the start of the weeds, than in cases of field culture.

With these words of caution we leave it to each farmer to swell and coat his seed corn, or to drop it dry and trust to Providence to bring it forward in due season.

In regard to using any tincture in the seed which is the best mode of cultivation. This is a very valuable fruit, and our climate is well suited to bring it to perfection. But attention is necessary, as in all things, to make the business of raising them profitable.

Sheep have been known to live a long time without water, and some farmers turn them into lots where none can be had. In June while the grass is full of sap they may not suffer much for want of water.

Robins and caterpillars are, apparently, very civil neighbors to each other. They build their nests on the same tree, at one and the same time, within a few feet of each other, and when the earth has been ploughed, with bushes that were mowed and burnt before the time of sowing, or to breathe the upper air; but we have never seen one eat a caterpillar, a canker-worm, or any other worm that infests the leaves of our trees, within the time of sowing.

Many of the caterpillars that walk on two legs are entirely unfounded. What a robin might do, in case he should be in extraordinary hunger, we do not know. We have often seen birds eat caterpillars, and worms, &c., in plenty, when high mould, usually called the caterpillars, and other worms, which live in the earth, and sometimes come to the surface in search of food, or to breathe the upper air; but we have never seen one eat a caterpillar, a canker-worm, or any other worm that infests the leaves of our trees, within the time of sowing.

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SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 8, 1844.

WILLIAM BUCKMASTER, Editor.

Executive Encroachments.

The assumptions of the Executive Branch of the United States government have increased, are increasing, and ought to be diminished. This is a position that must be acknowledged to be correct by candid men of both the great political parties of this country, and the present seems a most favorable opportunity to curtail this excessive power, since it is not now wielded by either of these parties but has fallen into the hands of a nondescript administration which is not respected or upheld by either.

The power of making war was granted to Congress—both branches must assent. And the power of making treaties is granted to the President and Senate. And though by possibility the ratification of a treaty might occasion a war, neither the President alone, nor the Senate in company with him has a right, to make a treaty that will necessarily bring on war. If this could be done the Constitution could be evaded in a most important point.

It now appears, by evidence drawn forth from the Executive, that he not only had reason to believe that his espousal of the troubles of Texas would involve us in a war with Mexico, but that he took on himself the responsibility of making active preparations for such a war, that he actually ordered out detachments of the Military and Naval forces of the United States to the frontiers of Texas.

It now appears that before the Minister from Texas would sign the treaty he required the President to bind the United States to the government of Texas against any movement on the part of Mexico! And it seems from the papers, now first brought to light, that the President was required to agree to these conditions before the commencement of the negotiation!

If this is not an assumption of power that ought to be checked we can hardly conceive of the property of having two Houses of Congress. They may serve to lull the people to sleep and to fascinate security, while their plotting demagogues at Executive head quarters are getting into war.

Such barefaced conduct on the part of the President must open the eyes of the nation on the subject of executive power, and we trust that neither of the great political parties of the country will find its interest in sanctioning such encroachments on the part of the executive.

Let each of the three branches be confined to its own proper sphere and we shall be likely to have a government of laws rather than one of men, of individuals who may be fond of assuming responsibilities with which the constitution has not entrusted them.

It is a maxim in government that "supreme power must reside somewhere" but it need not reside in one person, nor in one body of men. The ancients knew not how to divide and parcel out the powers of government and they consequently suffered sometimes from the tyranny of one, sometimes from the tyranny of the mass of men, an "Oligarchy," as the Greeks called it, and sometimes from the tyranny of the mass of the people who assembled in one body which made and carried into execution its own laws.

This one body was the *Legislature*, the *Judiciary*, and it was often as tyrannical in the government of a single individual. Indeed, it was more daring than most individuals are who are invested with supreme power; as mobs are always more bold than individual robbers or incendiaries.

The chief improvement in modern government consists in a due separation, a division, of the powers granted. Checks are here interposed which render more secure than we should be under a single or sole head. Checks that will not permit one body to make a law and then put its own construction upon it.

DEMOCRATIC RATIFICATION. On Tuesday evening the democrats had a full meeting in Faneuil Hall to approve of the nomination of Mr. Polk. A number of resolutions were introduced and some of the members spoke. George Bancroft, Esq., made a long address; according to the report of the Post, Mr. Bancroft said in praise of Mr. Polk: "He had never raised his hand against his fellow man, nor sought to increase his store by gambling, nor participated in draining the intoxicating draught."

It must be very gratifying to the friends of Republican government in Europe to learn that we have at length found an individual in the United States who is not a duelist, a gambler, or a drunkard. Republics must not despair.

South Carolina NOTICES. Mr. McDuffie of South Carolina has some pretty whimsical ideas in regard to a tariff. He advocates raising ten millions by a duty of *ten per cent.* on imported merchandise, and fifteen millions by a direct, or excise tax, on goods manufactured in the United States! He talked of going home and into the Legislature of South Carolina where he would move to tax domestic cottons *ten per cent.* on their entrance into his state! He must have curious notions of the rights of the separate states. He construes the Constitution as ill as some men do their Bibles. Mr. McDuffie voted with the minority of four against thirty-three on the question of restoring the Compromise act.

THE WHEAT CROP. We leave from Indiana that the wheat is much injured by the fly, and by the late rains. From Morgan Co. (Ohio) we hear the wheat is very promising. From New Orleans the report is that the late rains have revived the crops of corn and cotton. From Tallahassee (Fla.) we learn the crops now promise well, though the weather has been very dry. Forward corn was in the silk and tassel on the 24th ult.

EARLY HARVEST. The Richmond Compiler of the 4th inst. says the farmers along James river have been engaged in harvesting their wheat crop for more than a week, and the crop is good.

THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE for the past year were \$83,000, \$10,000 more than those of the previous year. The losses by fire \$2,000.

DRUGHT IN THE WEST INDIES. Some of the West India islands are suffering very severely for want of rain. In Cuba hundreds of cattle have perished. It is reported that they have not had rain at Havana for nine months.

SALARIES. The Rhode Island legislature in Congress is lauged at in Washington for voting four times as high a salary for a doer keeper as is paid to the Governor of Rhode Island; his salary is four hundred dollars.

CLAIRVOYANCE IN PARIS. The Paris Globe publishes a curious account of a somnambulic experiment, at which Lord Brougham and the Hon. Mrs. Damer were present. The said Lord Brougham, in his closed hand to the somnambulist, asked him what was written in it, to which the reply immediately was, *Chester*. It certainly was not *Exchequer*. Mrs. Damer asked the somnambulist if he could tell her what she had placed on her table before she left home. "Yes," said he, "I can see it now. It is a medallion." "What does it represent?" "A lion." "Who made it?" "Napoleon, Wellington, and a third whose name I cannot tell; but he was an Englishman and a sailor; and he died before Napoleon." "You are right," said the lady. "It is the hair of Lord Nelson." A gentleman the Globe says Viscount Jocelyn, but he is not mentioned in the paper, and asked what was in it. "Something red," said the somnambulist, "and from a distant country," and then, after a pause, added, "It is a piece of coral, carved into a death's head," and this was found to be the case. On another occasion, with the same somnambulist, he was asked what was in a sealed packet, enclosed in several sheets of paper. He asked what it contained. "The word politics," said the somnambulist. "Printed large characters on light green paper." Mr. Victor Hugo cut it out of a pamphlet which I now see lying on his table, a copy of *Le Monde*; and that, Mr. Brougham said to be the house; and that, Mr. Brougham said to be the contrary. (Paris Correspondent of the Globe.)

THE ABOVE is published in one of the Boston papers as a serious matter of fact. Thus we are called to believe that one man can dream accurately what another holds in his closed hand! And has it so soon come to this in a Protestant country? Can we also be liable to those that have net eyes? Can it? It seems to us more scriptural to believe that many who have eyes see not."

We know that in France and in Ireland the Roman Catholic clergy are at this day persuading their hearers of their power of working miracles. But we had supposed that all Protestants repudiated such pretensions.

We are asked how we can account for such surprising revelations to somnambulists—how we can explain or dispose of these mysteries? For our single self we say we are not bound to account for the tricks of jugglers, nor have we leisure to expose all their arts. And as to facts, why, let us have them first, before being required to refute them. It is not more reasonable to believe that men will lie than that they can see without eyes! Have not thousands been proved deceivers where one has demonstrated that they can see through a milestone, or that he had the gift of "Second Sight?"

It is but a few days since two Boston clergymen published a story in the public papers professing their faith that individual, whom they named, (a juggler we presume,) could tell, by touching a letter, written to one of the clergy, what were its contents! They actually endeavored to persuade the public that by a mere touch he learned the contents of the letter!

HARPER'S PICTORIAL BIBLE. The fourth number of this splendid work is received by Lewis & Sampson.

THE KNICKERBOCKER for June is published by Otis, Brothers & Co.

REDDING & CO. have a copy of "Harper's Pictorial Bible," No. 4. "The Ladies Magazine," "New Mirror" &c. at 5 State street.

A SHOCKING TRAGEDY occurred on Saturday morning, about 4 o'clock, in a French boarding house in Philadelphia. A Frenchman, by the name of Juchon, was found dead in his room, known, made a desperate and (what eventfully proved fatal) attempt on the life of his wife, by shooting her with a pistol, while lying in bed, directly under the left breast, and immediately after, with another pistol, destroyed his own life by firing a ball entirely through his body, entering the left breast, passing through the heart and out of the right side, between the ribs. He died immediately. His wife expired on Saturday evening, about 8 o'clock.

GENERAL DONATIONS. We learn from the Newport Mercury that the "Redwood Library" in that town recently received the handsome donation of one thousand dollars, from a gentleman in New Orleans, a native of Newport, for the purpose of repairing the porches and steps of the Library building, or for any other purpose they may think proper. Within a few days the sum was remitted, and another sum was given in grading the street and flagging the sidewalk from the head of Touro street to the end of the library lot.

FORGERY AND ARREST. A young man named Wheeler, was arrested on Saturday evening by Constable Clapp, for forging for a check, on the 17th instant, Esq. of this city, for \$65. He had disposed of the check to a rascal, and received \$436 in change. The money was all found in his possession when he was arrested except fifty cents.

THE WASHINGON SPECTATOR, speaking of the failure of obtaining information from Baltimore by means of the Electro-Magnetic Telegraph, "was so loathsome, with the mail, came thundering along last night with the intelligence up to five o'clock, which had been received early in the day, and was to be sent to the House of Representatives at the time of the debate on the 21st, to vote on the 22d."

THE SALEM GAZETTE of Tuesday, by copying a part of an article in which we are interested verbatim from the Boston Courier, misrepresents the case to its readers. "Then by not giving the proper credit to the Courier, it misrepresents the origin of the article, giving the readers of the Gazette to understand that it originated in the Gazette."

ROBBERY OF THE MILLBURY BANK. At Worcester, on Friday last, Judge Allen gave the opinion of the Court in the case of the Commonwealth v. the three Learned who were found guilty of the robbery at the last term of the Court. A motion for a new trial was then made as to James Learned, and has since been argued in Boston. The Court decided that a new trial should be granted to him. Abijah Learned was sentenced to two days solitary imprisonment and to confinement to hard labor in the State Prison for ten years. Jeremiah Learned to five years.

THE MEDFORD FAIR. The Fair of Medford is making great preparations for a Medford Fair. In our last paper an error occurred in regard to the day appointed for the meeting. The *twelfth* of June is the appointed day. The ladies of the Rev. Mr. Stetson's Society are the Managers, and many sweet faces as well as sweet cakes will doubtless be presented at the Medford House.

THE WHEAT CROP. We leave from Indiana that the wheat is much injured by the fly, and by the late rains. From Morgan Co. (Ohio) we hear the wheat is very promising. From New Orleans the report is that the late rains have revived the crops of corn and cotton. From Tallahassee (Fla.) we learn the crops now promise well, though the weather has been very dry. Forward corn was in the silk and tassel on the 24th ult.

EARLY HARVEST. The Richmond Compiler of the 4th inst. says the farmers along James river have been engaged in harvesting their wheat crop for more than a week, and the crop is good.

THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE for the past year were \$83,000, \$10,000 more than those of the previous year. The losses by fire \$2,000.

DRUGHT IN THE WEST INDIES. Some of the West India islands are suffering very severely for want of rain. In Cuba hundreds of cattle have perished. It is reported that they have not had rain at Havana for nine months.

SALARIES. The Rhode Island legislature in Congress is lauged at in Washington for voting four times as high a salary for a doer keeper as is paid to the Governor of Rhode Island; his salary is four hundred dollars.

THE weather in this vicinity continues fine but we should like a little more rain. Rich mowing lands have grass so far advanced that it is not so much in fear of dry weather, but old fields that yield something in a wet season will give but a short harvest this summer. Farmers, don't sell off your old hay too soon. We have much stock in the country, and may want the hay.

OUR friend in Harvard must excuse our not inserting sooner his "Concerts on Bare-hill, Harvard." We hope at least that the beautiful choristers will not be offended on account of our prior engagements.

LOST LABOR.—Unpremeditated speech. On Tuesday Mr. Houston, in the House, made a speech on the expenses of Mr. Van Buren's administration. He probably had his unpremeditated observations cut and dried in the expectation that Mr. Van Buren would be nominated.

WE acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society for 1843, published at Albany. This is a very handsome volume of 607 pages, and contains much valuable and interesting matter. The geological and other cuts are numerous and neatly executed. New York is alive to their Agricultural interests, and she is under great obligation to her able periodical journals of Agriculture. They foster the spirit of improvement and lead the farmers to exercise their mental faculties concurrently with their bodily powers.

WE are under much obligation to the New York Society for their liberality, through their attentive Secretary, H. O'Reilly, Esq.

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES; with a Commentary by A. L. Livermore. London: Chapman, Boston, James Monroe & Co., 1812.

This is prepared for the general reader, in a concise manner, as an aid to Family Instruction and for Bibles. The favor with which the "Commentaries on the Gospels" were received, induced the author to add this volume to the series.

It contains a map of the travels and voyages of St. Paul, and is excellently printed. We commend it to the public.

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THE TYRANT. The Chair was occupied by Mr. McDuffie, who concluded his speech against the tariff; in the course of which he denounced Massachusetts, and especially Mr. Choate, one of the Senators therefrom, with coarse violence, and exhibited his patriotism and his views of constitutional obligation, by declaring that he would leave the Senate, go home, and be elected a member of the House of Representatives.

THE HOUSE adopted a resolution ordering an inventory of the furniture of the President's House to be laid before Congress every four years, and a periodical inventory of all the Departments.

THE BILL extending the benefits of the Pension to the widows of officers and soldiers who served in the Revolutionary war, was debated while the same was laid aside to be reported to the House.

THE SENATE bill for the settlement of private land claims in certain of the Southern States, was then taken up, and the day given to its consideration.

THE CHAIR swayed the floor to Mr. Sumner of Vt., who was at once into the discussion of the greatest question of the day.

MR. S. was cut short without closing, and was followed by Mr. Houston of Ala., in reference to the public debt of Mr. Van Buren's administration.

MR. LEONARD of Illinois, continued the debate.

WEDNESDAY, June 5.

IN SENATE. Mr. Huger presented two memorials from South Carolina, in favor of the annexation of Texas.

MR. BERNARD of Ga., presented a bill for the election of President and Vice President, in one day in all States in the Union.

THE SENATE voted to adjourn, and the debate was adjourned to the next day, in consequence of the choice of electors from the State of South Carolina.

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THE POETS CORNER.

"I CANNOT SING AS ONCE I SUNG."
BY MISS AGNES STRICKLAND.

I cannot sing as once I sang,
When hope was fresh and life was young,
And light of heart, and fancy free,
I had not dreamt of love or thee.

I cannot sing as once I sang,
When first to please thin ear, I sung
My magic note in evil hour,
Within the silent fiddler bower.

I cannot sing as once I sang,
When on my voice you fondly hung,
And vowed each tone possessed a spell
To thrill my bosom's inner cell.

I cannot sing as once I sang,
Wield every note with rapture strong,
And, traced in passion's wifery,
My heart was full of love and thee.

Ah! well a day, that time is gone,
My voice hath learned another tone;
A tone that speaks of hope's decay,
And joy forever passes away.

Both lute and voice are deeply changed,
Since first I found thine heart estranged;
My voice betrays the pang I bear,
My heart responds my heart's despair.

I cannot sing as once I sang,
When life was fresh and life was young,
And light of heart and fancy free,
I had not dreamt of love and thee.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Courtship of the Elder Adams.

Some ten years since I spent a college vacation in the town of Weymouth, Norfolk County, Mass. While there I attended church one Sunday morning at what was called the old Weymouth meeting house, and heard a sermon from the venerable pastor, Rev. Jacob Norton. About the same time, I made the acquaintance of Mr. Norton, and became much interested in him as a gentleman. I mentioned my agreeable visits to an aged lady of the parish, whose acquaintance I had made. She informed me that Mr. Norton was ordained their pastor when he was about twenty-one years of age, and that he had been with them nearly forty years. She observed that most of his parishioners could remember no other pastor, but that she could well remember his predecessor, the Rev. Mr. Smith, and that he and Mr. Norton had filled the same pulpit.

"Mr. Smith," said she, "was an excellent man, and a very fine preacher; but he had high notions of himself and family—in other words, he was something of an aristocrat." One day she said to me, "To illustrate to you a little the character of old Parsons Smith, I will tell you an anecdote that relates to himself and some other persons of distinction. Mr. Smith had two charming daughters—the eldest of these daughters was Mary, the name I have for you, and the other, who was the admiral's daughter, and the envy of all the belles of the country around. But while two careful guardians of the parson's family were holding consultations on the subject, it was rumored that two young lawyers (I think but of the neighboring town of Quincy,) Mr. Crane and a Mr. Adams, were paying their addresses to the Miss Smiths. As every man, woman and child of a country parish in New England, is acquainted with the details of the parson's family, all the circumstances of the relationship soon transpired. Mr. Crane was of a respectable family of some note, was considered a young man of promise, and altogether worthy of the alliance he sought. He was very acceptable to Mr. Smith, and was greeted by him and his family with great respect and cordiality. He was received by the eldest daughter with much respectability. He afterwards rose to the dignity of judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Massachusetts, and was the father of the present Hon. Judge Crane, of the District of Columbia.

The sister of the other daughter was John Adams, who after her death, became the First Lady of the Land. At that time, in the opinion of Mr. Smith and family, he gave but slender promise of the distinction to which he afterwards arrived. His pretensions were scorned by all the family, excepting the young lady to whom his addresses were especially directed.—

Mr. Smith showed him none of the ordinary civilities of the house, he was not asked to partake of the hospitalities of the table; and it is reported that his home was denied to share with him, when, during his confinement, to which he was subjected, for he was frequently seen shivering in the cold, and gnawing the post at the pastor's door, of long winter evenings. In fine it was reported that Mr. Smith had intimated to him that his visits were unacceptable, and he would do him a favor by discontinuing them; he told his daughter that John Adams was not worthy of her; that his father was an honest tradesman, a farmer, who had tried to be a man. In the eyes of the world, he was a shirk—nothing but without success; and that he had next him to college as a last resort. He in fine, begged his daughter not to think of making an alliance with one so much beneath her.

Miss Smith was among the most dutiful of daughters, but she saw Mr. Adams through a medium very different from that which her father viewed her. She would not for the world offend or disobey her father, but, when John saw something in her eye and mind which seemed to him to be of the same character as that which he had next him to college as a last resort. He in fine, begged his daughter not to think of making an alliance with one so much beneath her.

The espousal of the eldest daughter, Mary, arrived, and she was united to Mr. Crane in the holy bonds, with the approval, the blessings and benedictions of her parents and her friends. Mr. Smith, however, was not satisfied, and, in order to prepare your sermon for next Sunday: what do you select for your text?" "My dear father," said Mary, "I have selected the latter part of the 42d verse of the 10th chapter of Luke."

"Many hath chosen that good part which shall never be taken from her."

"Very good; my daughter," said her father; and so a sermon was preached.

Mr. Adams persevered in his suit in defiance of all opposition. It was many years after, and on a very different occasion, and in resistance of very different opposition, that he uttered those memorable words *sicut etiam tu sis, tu etiam dicatur* or *per te I give the heat and hand to this cause.*

But though the measures were different for the suit was the same. Besides he had already carried the main point of attack, the heart of the young lady—and he knew the surrender of the citadel must soon follow. After the usual hesitation and delay that attend such an unpleasant affair, Mr. Smith seeing that resistance was fruitless, yielded the contested point with as much grace as possible, as many a prudent father has done, before and since that time. Mr. Adams was unfeignedly a man of great tact, and told his daughter, "You preached sister Mary a sermon on the occasion of her marriage—won't you preach me one likewise?" "Yes, my dear girl," said Mr. Smith, "choose your text, and you shall have your sermon." "Well," said the daughter, "I have chosen the 33d verse of the 7th chapter of Luke."

"For John came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and ye say he hath a devil."

The old lady, my informant, looked me very archly in the face when she repeated this passage, and observed, "if Mary was the most dutiful daughter, I guess the other had the most wit."

Could not ascertain whether the last sermon was ever preached.

RELIGIOUS READING.

LAWS OF LIFE FIXED—INEXORABLE.

It may not be inappropriate to remark, how well these ladies justified the preference of the distinguished individuals who had sought them in marriage. Of them it will hardly be extravagant to say they were respectively an honor to their husbands, the boast of their sex, and the pride of New England. Mrs. Adams in particular, who from the elevated position in which her health was placed, before the world, brought before the public eye, was supposed to hold the same elevated rank in the gentile sex, that Mr. Adams did among men, and she is reported to have rendered her husband much assistance in his multiplied labors of the pen.—[Cin. Chron.]

STATE LUNATIC HOSPITAL.

In the "Eleventh Annual Report by Dr. Woodward," published at Worcester, we notice the following in the statistical portion:—

"Intemperance takes a prominent stand in almost every table of the British or American statistics of 'cause.' It has been over considered as first and foremost of influences which distract and destroy the nervous system. Delirium tremens arises almost solely from this cause. A popox, fury, epilepy and other diseases arise from it and terminate in insanity. These are the physical causes of insanity which individually are not less than the physical causes of death. This is our responsibility. The "harp of thousand strings" which we are to play upon, and to baffle the world in our efforts to do so, is the human heart. Whether we are deeply skilled in the instrument and its uses, or are totally ignorant of both, still we must be the players; and the music, harmonious or discordant, must be such as we individually are able and willing to produce. Our violin machine has each its own director, and admits of no substitute; and according to the skill and the faithfulness of the conductor, the music and the faithfulness of this direction, will be the amount of vitality given us. It is vain to say, however, that we are to sustain this responsibility—for we must be responsible for the consequences of our acts. No one can assume it for us; no one can bear the consequence in our stead. As we eat, breathe, and move, so shall we alone live or die."

Not merely, in general terms, must we obey the laws of life, in order to prevent evil coming upon us; but in each and every particular must we be faithful. Every organ and function must be rightly administered, or health and comfort will not come to us; but the specific pain, which follows the violation of the law of the slave, is inevitably come. Every righteous man brings his own punishment. The law is inexorable; it acknowledges no compromise; it is not satisfied with anything short of entire submission. It will require no virtue, however great, as a compensation for any sin, however small. No matter how faithful one may be in the government of his appetites, in ventilation, in the care of his skin, and clothing, if he neglect exercise, he certainly deserves a punishment. If he neglect exercise, he becomes weak in all, by thus violating the law of harmony among his members. We have dyspepsia in college, consumption among ministers, and the brightest and the most promising are withered in their youth and cut off in the prime of life."

The believers of the second advent who have become insane, are subjects of the highest excitement; they are full of ecstasy and think of nothing but being soon transported to all the enjoyments of heaven. But there is another class who have not embraced the doctrine, but who have feared it might be true, who have distanced their own happiness in the search for it, and distract and distract in their thoughts, which it is a hard task to remove. We find that many of the religious melancholies of the season, who have not apparently been made in any way connected with this cause, are due to it. Two priests were brought to the hospital in one day, who, laboring under the delusions connected with this subject, finally concluded that they were inspired, and should hereafter live miraculously, and refused to eat or drink for several days.

Early last winter many cases from this cause came under our care. If they were recent, and not greatly exhausted, they recovered favorably. Two died from exhaustion after the highest excitement, and a few have apparently become hopeless insane.

The excitement now appears to be gradually

more intense, longer, yet it must finally give way to some new, popular belief. It will be fortunate for the community if it be less exciting and less prejudicial to the best interests of society."

The human mind cannot always be contented to do what it has learned by the track of experience. There are those who are looking for "some other way," by which they may arrive at the greatest good. As one delusion passes by, another comes, to be seized and made use of, by the truly conscientious no less than by the wicked and designing.

A large proportion of mankind seem not to have learned that religion is to be exhibited by the life, by the whole life, and not by fervor, exactness, and abstinence of distempered fancy, without knowledge, and professions with out practice.

We live at a time when the steady principles which have governed society seem to be too generally loosed.

All professions, unless it be the legal, have an equal share of quackery. Mankind generally trust their monied controversies and other litigations in the ablest hands, but will jeopardize health and their spiritual interests by seeking the counsels of empiric.

As ignorance gives place to knowledge, these absurdities will pass away; reason and science will take their weight over them, and the great canals on horizontal planes, because water will not run up hill, and we mix nitric acid with potash to make salt. But it is equally certain, that nothing but the air compounded and pure, precisely as God has made it for us, will decompound the blood and give vigor and life to our bodies, and that nothing but proper and digestible food can be converted into living flesh and blood. In both cases a person may be compelled to eat, and compelled to eat an imperfect diet, and the result will be an imperfect effect. The man, who builds his dwelling of old and decayed materials, or makes his garments of rotten cloth, deliberately calculates to have them weak and insecure against the exposure of the elements and of wear, for in their very creation, he has provided the principles of their weakness and destruction. So he, who builds the dwelling of his spirit of poor and ill adapted material, of impure food and corrupted air, as plainly prepares the seeds of his own infelicitas and death. The man, who has been educated with a simple and sound education, and an imperfect diet, will produce no effect, but if the principle of connecting with it religious instruction is not adhered to, he will be lost.

The man who attempts to concentrate his whole nervous energies in the muscular system, the gourmand, who tries to make himself all stomach, and the thinker, who confines his intellect to his books, and hopes thereby to increase his intellectual powers. But these who have feared it might be true, who have distanced their own happiness in the search for it, and distract and distract in their thoughts, which it is a hard task to remove. We find that many of the religious melancholies of the season, who have not apparently been made in any way connected with this cause, are due to it. Two priests were brought to the hospital in one day, who, laboring under the delusions connected with this subject, finally concluded that they were inspired, and should hereafter live miraculously, and refused to eat or drink for several days.

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As ignorance gives place to knowledge, these absurdities will pass away; reason and science will take their weight over them, and the great canals on horizontal planes, because water will not run up hill, and we mix nitric acid with potash to make salt. But it is equally certain, that nothing but the air compounded and pure, precisely as God has made it for us, will decompound the blood and give vigor and life to our bodies, and that nothing but proper and digestible food can be converted into living flesh and blood. In both cases a person may be compelled to eat, and compelled to eat an imperfect diet, and the result will be an imperfect effect. The man, who builds his dwelling of old and decayed materials, or makes his garments of rotten cloth, deliberately calculates to have them weak and insecure against the exposure of the elements and of wear, for in their very creation, he has provided the principles of their weakness and destruction. So he, who builds the dwelling of his spirit of poor and ill adapted material, of impure food and corrupted air, as plainly prepares the seeds of his own infelicitas and death. The man, who has been educated with a simple and sound education, and an imperfect diet, will produce no effect, but if the principle of connecting with it religious instruction is not adhered to, he will be lost.

The man who attempts to concentrate his whole nervous energies in the muscular system, the gourmand, who tries to make himself all stomach, and the thinker, who confines his intellect to his books, and hopes thereby to increase his intellectual powers. But these who have feared it might be true, who have distanced their own happiness in the search for it, and distract and distract in their thoughts, which it is a hard task to remove. We find that many of the religious melancholies of the season, who have not apparently been made in any way connected with this cause, are due to it. Two priests were brought to the hospital in one day, who, laboring under the delusions connected with this subject, finally concluded that they were inspired, and should hereafter live miraculously, and refused to eat or drink for several days.

Early last winter many cases from this cause came under our care. If they were recent, and not greatly exhausted, they recovered favorably. Two died from exhaustion after the highest excitement, and a few have apparently become hopeless insane.

The human mind cannot always be contented to do what it has learned by the track of experience. There are those who are looking for "some other way," by which they may arrive at the greatest good. As one delusion passes by, another comes, to be seized and made use of, by the truly conscientious no less than by the wicked and designing.

A large proportion of mankind seem not to have learned that religion is to be exhibited by the life, by the whole life, and not by fervor, exactness, and abstinence of distempered fancy, without knowledge, and professions with out practice.

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